(a) whether Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has recommended for the establishment of a National Frequency Management Board to prepare a comprehensive spectrum policy for the future;

(b) if so, the action being proposed by Government on the recommendations of TRAI; and

(c) whether any time-frame has been set for constitution of the Board?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. TRAI in its recommendations on "Allocation of Pricing of Spectrum for 3G and Broadband Wireless Access Services" dated 27 September, 2006 recommended constitution of National Frequency Management Board (NFMB) in order to prepare a long-term vision and planning for spectrum availability including additional spectrum, its efficient usage, planning for future requirement and effective monitoring.

However, based on the recommendations of an Expert Committee constituted in this Ministry on 18 September, 2006, the Telecom Commission had already approved the establishment of a Centre of Excellence for Radio Spectrum Engineering and Management (CERSEM) for formulation of spectrum management policy, evolving national spectrum plan keeping in view the future technologies and spectrum requirement of stakeholders and formulation of recommendations on efficient utilization of spectrum.

Passport offices in Maharashtra

†*211. SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:
SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any proposals to open new passport offices/passport service centres in Maharashtra and other States;

(b) if so, the details thereof with names of the places identified for this purpose; and

(c) the criteria for identifying places to set up new passport offices/passport service centres in the country?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S. M. KRISHNA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details of P.S.K. is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) The Government had entrusted the National Institute of Smart Government (NISG), Hyderabad with the task of undertaking a time-bound study on the passport issuance system, including its IT aspects with the objective to deliver passport related services to the citizens in a timely, transparent, more accessible, reliable manner and in a comfortable environment, through streamlined procedures and committed, trained and motivated workforce. The Government accepted the NISG report and the Cabinet approval for the Passport Seva Project was obtained in September, 2007. The NISG also recommended the location of the Passport Seva Kendras on the basis of a study conducted by them on the number of passport applications received from various districts under each Passport Office.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

Statement

Details of Passport Seva Kendra (PSK)
Distribution of proposed PSKs

Passport Office	PSKs at existing Passport Office locations	Proposed PSKs at new locations	Total No. of PSKs
1	2	3	4
	PSKs to be Newly Setup		
Delhi	Delhi 1, Delhi 2	Gurgaon	3
Mumbai	Mumbai 1, Mumbai 2, Mumbai 3	None	3
Hyderabad	Hyd I, Hyd 2, Hyd 3	Vijayawada, Nizambad, Tirupathi	6
Chennai	Chennai 1, Chennai 2, Chennai 3	None	3
Bangalore	B'lore I, B'lore 2	Hubli-Dharwad, Mangalore	4
Ahmedabad	Ahmedabad 1, Ahmedabad 2	Baroda, Rajkot	4
Cochin	Cochin	Thrissur, Alappuzha, Ernakulam, Rural, Kottayam	5
Jalandhar	Jalandhar 1, Jalandhar 2	Hoshiarpur	3
Trivandrum	Trivandrum	Kollam, Trivandrum rural	3
Chandigarh	Chandigarh	Ludhiana, Ambala	3
Trichy	Trichy 1 , Trichy 2	Thanajavur	3
Kolkata	Kolkata	Bahrampur	2
Lucknow	Lucknow	Varanasi, Kanpur, Gorakhpur	4
Jaipur	Jaipur	Jodhpur, Sikar	3
Kozhikode	Kozhikode 1, Kozhikode 2	Kannur 1 , Kannur 2	4
Thane	Thane	Nasik	2
Pune	Pune	None	1
Patna	Patna	None	1
Visakhapatnam	Visakhapatnam	None	1
Surat	Surat	None	1

1	2	3	4
Bhopal	Bhopal	None	1
Ghaziabad	Ghaziabad	None	1
Bareilly	Bareilly	None	1
Malappuram	Malappuram	None	1
Nagpur	Nagpur	None	1
Amritsar	Amritsar	None	1
Guwahati	Guwahati	None	1
Madurai	Madurai	Tirunelveli City	2
TOTAL			68
	PSKs co-located with Passport Offices		
Bhubaneswar	Bhubaneswar	None	1
Ranchi	Ranchi	None	1
Coimbatore	Coimbatore	None	1
Panaji	Panaji	None	1
Jammu	Jammu	None	1
Srinagar	Srinagar	None	1
Shimla	Shimla	None	1
Raipur	Raipur	None	1
Dehradun	Dehradun	None	1
TOTAL			9
TOTAL OFFICES			77

Revision of licence fee

*212. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to revise the licence fee to 8.5 per cent of Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR) of Telecom operators;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that TRAI has not been consulted although such activity require TRAI's recommendation as envisaged under the TRAI Act;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the proposal would have negatively impacted mobile operators in B and C categories who pay 8 per cent and 6 per cent respectively as licence fee of AGR; and